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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/692,971	
	Filing Date	October 24, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Mark A. Cleveland	
	Group Art Unit	3641	
	Examiner Name	Chambers, Troy	
Total Number of Pages in this Submission	15	Attorney Docket Number	024.0030 (02-1193)

ENCLOSURES		(check all that apply)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-Related papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PCT Written Opinion

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual	Mark M. Takahashi	Registration No.	38,631
Signature			
Date	June 26, 2006		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage thereon, as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date listed below:			
Typed or printed name	Mark M. Takahashi		
Signature		Date	June 26, 2006



UTILITY PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Mark A. Cleveland Group Art Unit: 3641
Serial No.: 10/692,971 Examiner: Chambers, Troy
Filed: October 24, 2003
Title: LOW SHOCK SEPARATION JOINT
Attorney Docket No.: 024.0030 (02-1193)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in a manner prescribed by 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement IDS is being submitted herewith for consideration by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

I. **CONTENT**

This IDS includes:

- ☒ A list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office on PTO/SB/08A Form, which is included herewith;
- ☒ A legible copy of: (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, unless subsequently provided in this IDS.

II. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

- ☒ Except as may be subsequently indicated in this section II, a concise explanation is not required as all of the patents, publications, applications or other information are in the English language.
- ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 1.56(a) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of all patents, publications, applications or other information listed that is not in the English language.
- ☐ A copy of the translation of a non-English Language document, or portion thereof. (e.g., a translation of an abstract)
- ☐ Any patent, publication, pending U.S. application or other information that is listed on PTO/SB/08A Form, which are not enclosed herewith were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in one of the following applications that has been relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C 120 and the IDS submitted in the earlier application complies with paragraphs (a) through (c) of 1.98:

U.S. Application Serial No.	U.S. Filing Date

III. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b): (check one box)

- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d).
- ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) and see the statement under 1.97(e) or charge deposit account 50-2091 the fee specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) if such statement is not selected in Section VI.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 1.114.

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c):

- ☒ After the period specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) and before the mailing date of any of a final action under 1.113, a notice of allowance under 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by:
- ☒ a statement specified in 1.97(e) as subsequently provided in this IDS; or
- ☐ the fee set forth in 1.17(p).

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d):

- ☐ After the period specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) and on or before the payment of the issue fee, and it is accompanied by a statement specified in 1.97(e) as subsequently provided in this IDS and the fee set forth in 1.17(p).

VI. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that:

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.
- ☐ No item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed for fees due with respect to this IDS.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 in the amount of \$_____ for the fees due with respect to this IDS. A duplicate copy of this paper is included with this IDS.

VIII. CONCLUSION

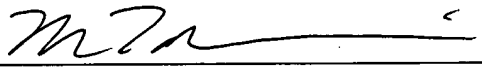
It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file patently distinguish the present invention from each of these references cited in this IDS. The references cited in this IDS are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in a combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore the filing of this IDS should not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in this IDS is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 1.56(b). In addition, the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning these IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number associated with Customer No. 55,397. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule, with a petition if necessary, and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2091.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment related to this IDS to Deposit Account No. 50-2091.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 26, 2006

By: 
Mark M. Takahashi
Reg. No. 38,631

Ingrassia Fisher & Lorenz
Customer Number 55,397

Enclosures: ☒ PTO/SB/08A
☐ References
☐ Foreign Search Report
☐ Fee
☒ Other: PCT Written Opinion &
PCT International Preliminary Report
On Patentability

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/692.971
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Filing Date	October 24, 2003
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First Named Inventor	Mark A. Cleveland
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Art Unit	3641
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Examiner Name	Chambers, Troy
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Attorney Docket Number	024.0030
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ^o
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		PCT Written Opinion	04-24-2006	PCT/US2004/034875		
		PCT International Preliminary Report	04-24-2006	PCT/US2004/034875		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.